

Choirs present program packed with music

Written by Holyoke Enterprise

Vocal students define music as “It’s not what I do, it’s who I am,” and they certainly took that to heart and to the stage Thursday, May 9 at their annual spring concert in the HHS auditorium.

Under the direction of vocal teacher Marcia Dalton, Holyoke junior high and high school choirs entertained with a variety of songs. Dalton also teamed up with Maury Kramer to lead the Select Choir called Sound Check. Sharon Strauss helped out on piano accompaniment.

Song selections for the junior high group included “Seize the Day,” “Light Up the World” and “Good Time,” with soloists Tyler Lamm, Drew Stewart, Mackenzie Golden, Regan Van Overbeke, Cassidy Hale and Mariah Pell.



Junior highers Regan Van Overbeke and Mackenzie Golden sing a duet during “Good Time.” —Enterprise photo

High school choir took the stage for an impressive “Les Miserables Medley,” featuring soloists Megan Vieselmeyer, Dani Brandt, Lori McWilliams, Kaety Overton, Destiny Loh-man and Sidney Struckmeyer.

The HHS vocalists also sang “Inscription of Hope” with Taylor Goldenstein on flute and narrator Logan Gift and “Anyway” with soloist Alex McCallum.

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Sound Check had a big night with several numbers. The funny “Forever Polyester” featured soloists Eva Penzing and Ben Martinez, while soloist Jose Jaquez led the group in “Some Nights.” A tricky routine with glow-in-the-dark cups highlighted Sound Check’s “Home” song.



Sound Check member Dani Brandt works her magic with the group’s cup routine during “Home.”

—Enterprise photo

The Sound Check ladies sang “A Thousand Years” with Martinez on guitar, as well as “Landslide,” with guitarists Martinez and Jaydin Goldenstein and soloists Erin Vieselmeyer, Elissa Baker and Camille Elliott.

Martinez and Goldenstein took center stage again with their guitars when the Sound Check men performed “Rhythm of Love,” featuring Goldenstein as soloist.

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Both junior high and high school choirs combined for “Bonse Aba” with soloists Struckmeyer and Gift and “Like an Eagle” with piano accompanist Whitney Powell.

Pre-concert and concert entertainment allowed many junior high and high school vocalists to get some experience in front of a crowd with solos and small group numbers.

Thursday’s solos included “Listen” by Overton, “Red is the Rose” by McCallum, “Danny Boy” by Lohman, “I Will Always Love You” by Gabriela Masis, “You Raise Me Up” by Elliott and “When I’m Gone (The Cup Song)” by Powell, as well as songs by Jaxie Gerk, Autumn Higgs, Logan Osborne and Mackenzie Thompson.



Vocalists from the junior high and high school choirs come together for “Bonse Aba,” featuring Sidney Struckmeyer and Logan Gift at the end of last Thursday’s spring choir concert. □ □ —Enterprise photo

Duets were “Worn” by Jaxie and Chandler Gerk, “Born Again” by Baker and Jaquez, “Blessings” by Erin and Megan Vieselmeyer, “As Long as You Love Me” by Brittney Prottsman and Trevor Dalton with guitarist Martinez and “For Good” by Powell and Emily Krogmeier, as well as duets by Overton and Becca Weaver, Kaitlyn Shafer and Tara Krueger and Megan Humphreys and Brendan Mayden.

Ensembles included Krogmeier, Powell, Osborne, Krueger, Jaxie Gerk, Thompson and Juana Penzing singing “Clouds” and a trio of America Gonzales Burciaga, Rosmery Turcios and Jasmine Cazares.

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Dalton recognized and honored the vocal seniors at Thursday's concert. They included Jordan Bernard, Alexis Lenhart, Weaver, Baker, Elliott, Erin Vieselmeyer, Goldenstein, Jaquez and Martinez. She also said goodbye to exchange student Elli Ahro.



Vocal director Marcia Dalton presents senior Ben Martinez with the National Choral Award. —Enterprise photo

At last week's academic awards presentation, Dalton awarded Martinez the National Choral Award.

Holyoke Enterprise May 16, 2013